Mundingburra State School

Threads of Change

Threads of Change is a wearable art piece celebrating the resilience, strength and unity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Inspired by the significance of the 1967 Referendum and this year's NAIDOC theme, 50 Years of Deadly, we explored how our shared histories continue to shape who we are today and the future we are creating together.

At the heart of the piece is a reversible storytelling cape, representing two sides of one journey. Both sides feature Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-inspired artwork, acknowledging our unique cultures while celebrating our shared connection through Country, community, resilience and pride. Together, both sides of the cape pay tribute to the ongoing journey towards recognition, inclusion and equality, honouring those who advocated for change and those who continue to carry that journey forward.

The outer black and white side honours the generations who came before us. Through native flora, fauna, waterways and traditional motifs, it celebrates our enduring connection to Country and symbolises remembrance—not of defeat, but of survival. It reflects a time when First Nations peoples' contributions, voices and place within Australian society were too often overlooked, while honouring the resilience, strength and unwavering connection to Country that carried our communities forward.

As the cape turns, so too does the story.

The inner coloured side celebrates hope, pride and progress. Together, our handprints become a powerful symbol of presence, belonging and shared humanity, representing the generations who continue to carry culture, strengthen community and inspire change.
Just as every woven fibre strengthens the garment, our stories, cultures and communities are strengthened when we walk together. *Threads of Change* honours the past, celebrates the present and inspires the future, reminding us that the handprints we leave together become the footprints that guide generations to come.

Threads of Change 2026
Hessan, silk, raffia, calico, beads, jewellery wire, fabric paint, poster paint, paint pens, cotton thread, elastic, velcro, twine, hot glue, rubber bands, florist wire and florist tape